Mahu Cantonment

4966. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to bring Mahu Cantonment area under the Municipal limits; and

(b) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b). A proposal to excise approximately 240.60 acres of the civil areas of Mahu Cantonment is at a preliminary stage of examination by Headquarters Central Command.

[*English*]

Janata Cloth Scheme

4967. SHRI PARAS RAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Janata Cloth Scheme is functioning satisfactorily;

(b) if so, whether the scheme has been revised to make controlled cloth and Janata cloth avalilable to the consumers through the same retail outlets throughout the country; and

(c) if so, the main fearutres of the new scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) The Janata Cloth Scheme in the handloom sector provided sustained and continuous employment to the weavers and created additional employment in several States by activating dormant looms. The scheme also helped the poorer section of the society to get cloth at affordable prices. However, there have been complaints about unsaitsfactory distribution arrangements, mainly due to weak monitoring of delivery arrangements for janata cloth by State Governments.

(b) While the controlled cloth produced by the National Textile Corporation is distributed through the National/State Consumer Cooperative Federations, Fair Price Shops, Authorised retail dealers of NTC and own retail outlets of NTC, the handloom Janata cloth is distributed through National/State/District/Regional Apex Consumer Cooperative Societies; or Federations, any other approved distribution net work which broadly conform to the discipline of PDS, and the sale outlets of the implementing State Handloom Agencies.

(c) The guidelines for implementation of Janata Cloth Scheme was extensively revised, effective from 1st July 1990, providing for changes which should rectify the weaknesses including distribution arrangements. The Revised Guidelines prescribed that each implementing State should form a State Level Implementation Committee under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary/Secretary incharge of Handlooms with members drawn from Department of Civil Supplies, NGOS, Consumer representatives, other experts etc., to carryout a number of functions including monitoring the percormance of production and distribution arrangements. Stringent measures have also been prescribed for upgradution of quality of janata cloth and for timely payment of wages to weavers.

Export of Coffee

4968. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have fixed the target for the export of Coffee;